



TFG 1713

PATENT -- NO FEE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to their duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, applicants hereby bring to the examiner's attention patent documents that may be material to the examination of the above-identified application.

Therefore, in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98, applicants enclose a completed Form PTO-1449 listing the possibly pertinent patent documents and a copy of each non-U.S. patent document.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted more than three months after the filing date of the above-identified application, and, to applicants' knowledge, before the mailing date of a first Office

Action on the merits. Therefore, under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), this Information Disclosure Statement shall be considered by the Patent Office.

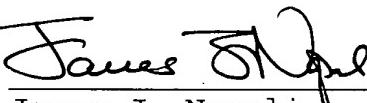
The Commissioner, however, is hereby authorized to charge any fee which may be required during the pendency of this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 37 C.F.R. 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 13-2855. A duplicate copy of this Transmittal is enclosed herewith.

We also enclose a copy of a International Search Report for the convenience of the examiner. In addition, U.S. Patent No. 6,150,479 corresponds to German-language EP 0 816 383.

Respectfully submitted,

MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP

By



James J. Napoli
(Registration No. 32,361)
Attorneys for Applicants
6300 Sears Tower
233 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 474-6300

Chicago, Illinois
August 9, 2006



Form 1449PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
(use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	10/568,208
				Filing Date	February 13, 2006
				First Named Inventor	Markus Schmid
				Group Art Unit	1713
				Examiner Name	Unassigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	
29827/41857					

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

SEARCHED DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY
		5,269,980	12/14/1993
		6,150,477	11/21/2000

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY
		0 358 180 (EPO)	12/27/1989
		0 816 383 (EPO)	01/07/1998
		WO 96/40427 (PCT)	12/19/1996

OTHER PRIOR ART – NONPATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.